

HEALTH
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ROYSTON
(YORKS.)
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

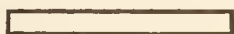
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND
Sanitary Inspector,
FOR THE
Year ending 31st December, 1947.

Barnsley :
R. E. Griffiths Ltd., Printers, Hanson Street..

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ROYSTON (YORKS.) URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1947.

Councillor G. H. COOKE, J.P. (*Chairman & Chairman of Council*).

„ A. CALCUTT (*Vice-Chairman*).

„ J. BERRY

„ T. DYER.

„ L. W. JACKSON.

„ G. SHONE.

„ W. B. STUBBS.

„ Mrs. J. A. WESTWOOD.

„ R. CRAWSHAW.

„ W. MORRIS (Retired April, 1947).

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health—

HENRY BURTON PARE, M.B., Ch.B.

(Retired September, 1947).

A. REEVES, M.A., M.D.,

B.Ch., B.A.O. (Dub.), D.P.H. (Vict., Manch.)

Divisional Medical Officer

(Appointed 1st October, 1947).

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent—

GEORGE EDWARD MILLAR, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,

Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods,

Royston Urban District Council.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT, 1947.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Royston Urban District Council.**

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year 1947. As you are aware, I took up the joint appointment of Medical Officer of Health and Divisional Medical Officer, West Riding County Council, on 1st October, 1947. Great difficulty was experienced in finding suitable office accommodation, which, due to the geographical position of the three Urban Districts comprising the Division, was considered essential to be located in Barnsley. However, in November suitable accommodation was found at Regent Chambers, 3, Regent Street South, Barnsley.

You will note that for the greater part of the year the late Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Pare, was in charge of the District and this Report has been prepared in close collaboration with him.

Generally during the year, the Health of the People of Royston has been very good and no serious outbreaks of Infectious Disease were reported.

Included in the Report is a brief outline of the Preventive Medical Services provided by the West Riding County Council.

The Death Rate is 10·013 per 1,000 population living per annum which is 1·497 higher than the Death Rate for 1946. The Birth Rate of 20·644 is 0·561 higher than that for 1946.

The Birth Rate is 0·144 higher than the Birth Rate for England and Wales and the Death Rate is 1·987 lower than the Death Rate for England and Wales.

The incidence of Infectious Disease during the years gives no cause for alarm.

35 cases of Scarlet Fever were originally notified during the year as compared with 24 in 1946. In two instances, however, the diagnosis was not confirmed, so that actual cases of Scarlet Fever occurring during the year were 33.

Only 1 case of Diphtheria was notified during the year as compared with 2 cases in 1946. The diagnosis was not confirmed, resulting in no actual cases of Diphtheria occurring during the year. This is very gratifying. It is of interest to note, that the case notified did not occur in a child but in an adult female. It would appear, therefore, that Prophylactic Diphtheria Immunisation is now justifying the claims made for it and sustained efforts should be made to encourage parents to have their children immunised, preferably at about one year of age and for follow-up treatment to be given just before the child starts school.

Six cases of Measles and six cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

(a) Area.

The Urban District covers an area of 1,452 acres.

(b) Population.

The estimated mid-summer population as given by the Registrar General is 7,799, an increase of 50. The natural increase of births over deaths for the whole year is 83.

(c) Number of Inhabited Houses.

During the year 68 new houses were occupied, of which 66 were Council Owned Houses and 2 built by private enterprise.

Of the 66 new Council Houses, 12 were Temporary Bungalows, 50 were B.I.S.F. Permanent Prefabricated Two Storey Houses, and 4 were two bedroom type brick houses. At the end of the year, building was in progress in respect of a further 50 B.I.S.F. houses and 26 brick houses of the two, three and four bedroom types.

At the end of the year, the total number of houses in the District had increased to 2,154.

(d) Rateable Value.

The Rateable Value of the District at the close of the year was £27,326 and the amount produced by a penny rate was £100.

(e) Vital Statistics.

The Registrar General's estimated mid-summer population is 7,799.

(1) DEATHS.

The following Table shows the causes of Death and is amended for inward and outward transfers :—

					M.	F.	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	3	0	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Influenza	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Measles	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Acute Polio-Myel and Polio-Enceph.	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Acute Inf. Enceph.	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Cancer of Buc. Cav. & Oesoph (M), Uterus (F)	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	...	0	2	2
Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	9	3	12
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
Inter-Cranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	...	3	4	7
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	7	8	15
Other Diseases of Circ. System	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	5	3	8
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	0	0	0

					M.	F.	Total
Puerperal and Post-Abort. Sepsis	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Con. Mal. Birth Inj. Infant Disease	...	...	...	...	2	0	2
Suicide	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Other Violent Causes	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
All Other Causes	...	...	...	...	4	3	7
TOTALS					46	32	78

The General Death Rate is 10·013 per 1,000 population.

(2) BIRTHS.

During the year 1947, 72 Male Births and 89 Female Births, making a total of 161 Births, were registered, of which 3 Male Births and 4 Female Births were illegitimate.

The Birth-Rate for the year is 20·644 per 1,000 estimated resident population as compared with 19·873 for the year 1946.

(3) STILL BIRTHS.

There were 2 Male Still Births out of a total of 163 (Live and Still) Births. This yields a Rate of 12·27 per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births. Both the Still Births were legitimate.

(4) INFANTILE MORTALITY.

During the year 1947, a total of 9 Deaths of infants under one year of age gives an Infantile Mortality Rate of 55·9 per 1,000 registered Live Births. The figure for 1946 was 64·94 per 1,000 Live Births.

Comments on Infantile Mortality.

PREMATURE BIRTHS.

There were 4 deaths from prematurity during the year. A reduction in the loss of life from this cause must and will be brought about. There will inevitably be some loss of life from prematurity. In some cases the degree of prematurity is incompatible with life but many of these babies can be saved if given skilled care and attention. A scheme has been introduced in the area recently under which all mothers in premature labour will be confined in the Maternity Wing of the St. Helen's Hospital, Barnsley, and the babies will be nursed until fit to go home in the premature baby unit. The scheme will be for a trial period only and would have been impossible to introduce but for the enthusiastic co-operation of the Resident Medical Superintendent of the Hospital, Dr. Wilson.

During 1947, the percentage survival of premature babies in the St. Helen's Premature Baby Unit exceeded 88%—a highly creditable achievement. The scheme has the blessing of the County Medical Officer (Dr. Fraser Brockington) and the Consultant Pædiatrician (Dr. Harvey). It has been received well by the great majority of the General Practitioners working in the Divisional area and by the Midwives. While this scheme is in operation every effort will be made to enable the Midwives in the area to attend post graduate courses of instruction in the care of the Premature Baby. These courses of instruction are held at centres such as the Sorrento Maternity Home, Moseley, Birmingham. At present, only a limited number of vacancies are available, but a start will be made shortly when a Midwife from this area will attend a 4 weeks' course of instruction in Premature Baby Care. It is not considered advisable to employ a "specialist" Midwife for looking after premature babies. Rather should every Midwife be enabled by suitable training to undertake this work as part of her daily or nightly job.

Domiciliary care of the Premature Baby rather than Institutional may in the long run provide a more satisfactory answer to the problem of how to ensure a greater survival rate among Premature Babies. In this area at the present time adequate facilities for the care of the Premature Baby in the home are difficult to obtain in many cases. There is considerable overcrowding in a large number of homes where it would be impossible to care adequately for a Premature Baby. Later, when the Midwives have had an opportunity of studying the most up-to-date methods of Premature Baby Care, when the housing position improves, and the results of the present scheme are known, the question of the most suitable means of caring for the Premature Baby will be reconsidered.

No illegitimate infants under the of age one year died during the year.

(5) MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There was one Death during the year due to Maternal Causes. This yields a Rate of 6.13 per 1,000 Live and Still Births.

The following Table shows the Principal Vital Statistics for the year 1947, based on the Registrar-General's Figures, and shows a comparison between this District, the aggregate West Riding Urban Districts, the West Riding Administrative County and England and Wales (Provisional Figures).

ROYSTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Principal Vital Statistics for the year, 1947.

Based on Registrar-General's Figures.

	Royston Urban District	Aggreg- ate West Riding Urban Districts	West Riding Admins. County	England and Wales (Provisional Figures)
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population) ...	20·6	21·6	21·5	20·5
DEATH RATES (All per 1,000 estimated population):				
All Causes	10·0	12·7	12·3	12·0
*Zymotic Diseases (seven principal)	0·26	0·16	0·16	**
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	0·38	0·38	0·39	0·47
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	0·13	0·09	0·09	0·08
†Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis of Respiratory System)	1·80	1·41	1·37	**
Cancer	2·05	1·87	1·80	1·85
‡Heart and Circulatory Diseases	2·18	4·23	3·98	**
INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under one year per 1,000 Live Births)	56	44	45	41
DIARRHŒA (Deaths in Infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 Live Births) ...	6·21	5·17	5·31	5·8
MATERNAL MORTALITY (Deaths of Mothers in Child-birth per 1,000 Live & Still Births—				
Puerperal Sepsis	6·13	0·24	0·21	0·26
Other Causes ... ..	...	0·88	1·07	0·91
TOTAL	6·13	1·12	1·28	1·17

* Combined Death Rate from Small Pox (if any), Scarlet Fever, Enteric Fever, Diphtheria, Measles, Whooping Cough, also Diarrhœa in Infants under 2 years of age.

† Combined Death Rate from Bronchitis, Pneumonia and other Respiratory Diseases, excluding Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System.

‡ Combined Death Rate from Heart Diseases and other Diseases of the Circulatory System.

** Figures not available.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

During the year, the following Ambulances have been available for the use of the residents of the District :—

The Royston Motor Ambulance Committee.

The Kendray Isolation Hospital Ambulance for notified cases of Infectious Diseases.

Ambulances from the West Riding County Council Ambulance Pool were also available for the transport of patients to and from Hospital where found necessary and other facilities were not available.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Details of the work of the Sanitary Section of the Department are given in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

The following Report is submitted by Mr. A. H. CLARK, the Surveyor :—

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for the year 1947.

The Sewers in the District have operated satisfactorily, and there appears to have been less nuisance from stoppages than hitherto.

No reports of unsatisfactory effluent has been received from the Rivers Board.

Sewage sludge from the sludge beds is being disposed of to farmers, smallholders and gardeners. The demand is in excess of the supply so no accumulation is taking place at the works.

Schools.

The following Report is submitted by Mr. F. WILSON, Divisional Officer for Education for the year January to December, 1947.

I regret that the details regarding attendance supplied to you for the 1946 Report are not this year available. This is due to the fact that the Ministry of Education have ceased to require weekly attendance returns from schools. It was from these returns that the percentage attendances were obtained.

ROYSTON DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

Particulars re Supply of Meals and Milk on a day in June, 1947.

SCHOOL.	Dept.	Accommo- dation.	No. on Roll at		No. of Children present on Day of Return.	MEALS.		MILK.	
			31/1/47	12/9/47		Free.	For Payment (including Part Payment).	$\frac{1}{2}$ Pint.	$\frac{3}{4}$ Pint.
ROYSTON MODERN ..	B.	230	122	160	110	47	23	110	..
do.	G.	320	146	175	118	41	55	96	..
ROYSTON COUNCIL ..	B.	248	223	225	198	57	93	180	12
do.	G.	246	223	211	198	52	112	192	6
do.	I.	328	255	269	200	46	113	192	..
ROYSTON C. E. ..	J.M.&I.	192	179	177	164	26	103	156	..

NOTE.—As from the 1st of August 1946, Milk has been supplied free of charge to all children under the Milk in Schools Scheme. Owing to the present shortage of Milk, one third of a pint only is supplied daily, except in cases where the School Medical Inspector has recommended that two thirds of a pint be supplied.

Table showing Analysis of cases of Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis) notified during year 1947.

Notifiable Disease	Age Groups												Total Cases removed to Hospital	No. of Deaths	
	At all Ages	Year													
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65			65 and over
Scarlet Fever	M 19 F 16	...	1	...	2	3	10	1	1	...	...	...	...	14	...
Diphtheria	F 1	...	...	...	...	...	8	5	2	1	...	...	...	12	...
Measles	M 1 F 5	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Whooping Cough	M 6 F 6	...	3	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	F 1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	F 1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Polio Myelitis	F 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
TOTALS	...	51	1	5	1	3	6	21	7	4	3	...	...	30	...

Of the cases listed above, original diagnosis was not confirmed as shown below :—

Scarlet Fever—1 case (male aged 3) classified as " Upper Respiratory Tract Infection."

1 case (female aged 5) classified as Parotitis.

Encephalitis Lethargica—This case was classified after observation in Hospital as Meningococcal Meningitis.

Diphtheria—Classified in Hospital as Tonsillitis cum Herpes Labialis.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Disease.

(a) NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during 1947.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 35 cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year as against 24 in 1946. There were no deaths. In two instances, there was a revision of diagnosis, one case being finally classified as Upper Respiratory Tract Infection and the other one as Parotitis.

The following table shows the number of cases over the last five years —

1943	...	...	...	23
1944	...	...	...	23
1945	...	...	...	12
1946	...	...	...	24
1947	...	...	...	35

DIPHTHERIA.

During the year only one case of suspected Diphtheria was notified. The diagnosis was not confirmed.

There were no deaths.

The following table shows the number of cases over the last five years.

1943	...	...	...	26
1944	...	...	...	7
1945	...	...	...	21
1946	...	...	...	2
1947	...	...	...	1

MEASLES.

Six cases of Measles were notified during the year.

There were no deaths.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Six cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year.

There were no deaths.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

One case of suspected Encephalitis Lethargica was notified during the year. The diagnosis was not confirmed, the case being classified as Meningococcal Meningitis.

POLIO MYELITIS.

One case of Polio Myelitis was notified during the year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

One case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified during the year.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

There were no cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified during the year.

(b) DISINFECTION.

Disinfection was carried out at all houses where cases of Scarlet Fever, suspected Diphtheria, suspected Encephalitis Lethargica and Polio Myelitis occurred, in addition to other premises where requests

were received for disinfection. In this latter respect, it is pleasing to be able to report that several requests were received for houses to be disinfected throughout following deaths from Tuberculosis.

Disinfection in such instances will always be carried out and the fact that householders wish to avail themselves of this service is gratifying.

Disinfection was carried out as follows :—

No. of houses disinfected	...	..	45
No. of separate rooms disinfected	...	...	60

(c) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

As in previous years, the vast majority of this aspect of preventive medicine has been dealt with at the Child Welfare Clinics, special stress being placed on the advisability of children below school age receiving treatment.

The value of the Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign is now beginning to be felt by the reduction in the number of cases of the disease being notified.

Tuberculosis Report for 1947.

(1) Number of cases on Register at the beginning of 1947 :—

PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY.				Total.
Male.		Female.		Male.		Female.		
13	...	7	...	2	...	4	...	26

(2) Number of cases at end of 1947 :—

PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY.				Total.
Male.		Female.		Male.		Female.		
15	...	7	...	2	...	3	...	27

(3) Number of notifications received during 1947 :—

Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.
6	...	1	...	7

(4) Total number of cases removed from Register during 1947 ... 6

(5) Number of cases admitted to Sanatoria during 1947 ... 3

(6) Number of deaths from Tuberculosis during 1947 :—

Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.
3	...	1	...	4

(7) Distribution of Notification (Sex and Occupation) :—

Age.		Sex.		Occupation.
53	...	Male	...	Railway Guard
25	...	"	...	Railway Fireman
11	...	"	...	School Child
40	...	"	...	Miner
24	...	"	...	Ex-Soldier
4	...	"	...	Child
1	...	"	...	Child
Total		...	7	

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time
up to 31st December, 1947.

Age at 31/12/47 ...	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 - 9	10 - 14	Total
i.e., Born in Year ...	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1938-1942	1933-1937	under 15
Number Immunised ...	41	78	23	15	13	54	3	227
Estimated mid-year Child population, 1947	Children under 5 700						Children, 5 - 14 1,210	

SMALL POX.

Notification of the arrival in the District of several contacts with known cases of Small Pox was received.

In all instances, contact was made with the cases and they were kept under observation for the requisite period. Fortunately, no cases developed in the District.

(3) PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was necessary under these Regulations during the year 1947.

(4) PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. SECTION 172.

No action was necessary under this Section during the year 1947.

(5) PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS, PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. SECTION 176.

No action was taken by the Urban District Council during the year 1947.

The following services provided by the W.R.C.C. are available in the Royston Area :—

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.**INFANT WELFARE CLINIC.**

Each Wednesday at the Wesleyan Sunday School, High Street, Royston—10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Continuous Clinic),

Mothers are referred to the Clinic by the Family Practitioner, Health Visitors or Midwives.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

Held in the same premises as Infant Welfare Clinic.

Held each Tuesday at 2 p.m.

Patients are referred by Family Practitioners, Midwives or Health Visitors. Consultant Ante-Natal Clinics are held by appointment at the County General Hospital, Wakefield.

SCHOOL CLINIC.

Held in the same premises as Infant Welfare Clinic.

Held each Friday at 10 a.m.

Children may be referred by Family Doctor, Teacher, School Nurse, Parents or School Medical Officer.

MINOR AILMENT CLINIC.

Each Tuesday at 10 a.m.—same premises as previous Clinics.

Cases are referred by School Medical Officer, Teacher or School Nurse.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.

This Clinic is arranged by the Divisional Office when sufficient cases are available to warrant a session by the Ophthalmologist. Cases are referred by School Medical Officer or School Nurse.

DENTAL CLINIC.

These are held from time to time in the area by arrangement with the Chief Dental Officer. All school children are inspected in a routine manner and any treatment required is carried out.

IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria Immunisation is undertaken at the Infants' Welfare Clinics. Special arrangements are made at schools for immunisation of school children.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALL POX.

Vaccination, if requested by the parent, will be provided for every child within one month of birth. The parent or guardian is given a form recommending vaccination of the child, which is carried out, free of charge, either by an Assistant County Medical Officer or by a private Medical Practitioner.

HOME NURSING.

One District Nurse is available in the area for nursing sick persons at home. The District Nurse has a telephone installed in her home so that her services are available night and day. The home nurse can be called in when required by the Family Practitioner.

DOMESTIC HELP.

A Domestic Help Service operates in the area. Such services are available :—

1. Where the housewife falls sick or must have an operation.
2. Where the wife is suddenly called away to see her husband in hospital and arrangements have to be made to look after the children.
3. For elderly people who are infirm or one of whom suddenly falls ill.
4. Where several members of the family are ill at the same time—*e.g.*, during an Influenza epidemic.
5. For cases of confinement, whether a mother is confined at home or in a hospital.

The Health Visitor is in touch with all households and will be in a position to advise whenever it is necessary to provide domestic assistance in the home.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

Two wholetime Midwives undertake domiciliary midwifery in the area. Mothers are encouraged to attend the Ante-Natal Clinic as early as possible.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE.

Mental Health Social Workers have been appointed. Their duties consist of the ascertainment, supervision and training of Mentally Defective persons and the supervision of patients boarded out from Mental Hospitals. Mentally Defective persons on licence from Institutions will also be supervised.

HEALTH VISITING.

Two Health Visitors operate in Royston. Their duties consist of acting as Nurse in Charge of the various Clinics and home visiting.

Information regarding any of the services can be obtained by enquiry at the Divisional Public Health Office, 3, Regent Street South, Barnsley (Telephone No. Barnsley 2247), or at the Council Offices, Royston (Telephone No. Royston 8), or by contacting any Health Visitor or Midwife in the area.

The following services are available at Central Clinics in Barnsley for the area.

CHEST CLINIC.

These are held each week at 46, Church Street, Barnsley. Cases are referred by appointment through the Divisional Office with the Consultant.

ORTHOPÆDIO CLINIC.

Clinics are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 2 p.m. at 46, Church Street, Barnsley. Cases are referred by the Divisional Medical Officer.

PÆDIATRIC CLINIC.

This Clinic is held at 46, Church Street, Barnsley, and will be held twice monthly from 2 to 4 p.m. Cases are referred by the Divisional Medical Officer or by the Family Practitioner.

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC.

Cases are referred to the Child Guidance Clinic by appointment.

ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT.

Arrangements are made by appointment for this form of treatment to be provided when recommended by the School Medical Officer or by the Medical Officer in charge of the Infant Welfare Clinic.

DISEASE OF THE SKIN.

Arrangements are made by the Divisional Medical Officer for treatment to be given for certain type of skin diseases.

PREMATURE BABY UNIT.

Specialised treatment for Premature Babies will be provided in the area by the establishment of a Premature Baby Unit either in the Division or in an adjacent Division. The service of a Pædiatrician is available to give expert advice on the care of these children.

Conclusion.

I would like to thank the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, for their support since taking up my appointment. My thanks are also extended to Mr. Millar, the Sanitary Inspector and the other Officials of the Council for their ready and willing assistance.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. REEVES,

M.O.H. Urban Districts of Darton, Cudworth & Royston ;

Divisional Medical Officer, West Riding County Council.

4th October, 1948.

Table showing the Monthly Incidence of Infectious Diseases during 1947.

Notifiable Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Scarlet Fever	6 M	5	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	—35
Diphtheria	3 F	1	2	...	2	1	...	...	1	1	4	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—1
Polio Myelitis	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—1
Ophthalmia Neonatarum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	—1
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	—6
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	—6
	—
	11	6	4	2	3	1	...	1	2	7	7	7	—51

NOTE.—The figures shown above are original notifications received and have not been adjusted where there was revision of diagnosis.

COMPARISON—Rate of Infectious Diseases per 1,000 population:—

	Royston.	England & Wales.
Diphtheria	0.128	0.13
Scarlet Fever	4.487	1.87

Royston Urban District Council.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1947.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Royston Urban District Council.**

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I submit my second Annual Report showing the work done in the Sanitary Section of the Public Health Department during the year ended 31st December, 1947.

That portion of the Report dealing with the Public Cleansing Service refers to the financial year ended 31st March, 1948.

Despite the continued shortage of labour and materials, and the necessity for the continuance of various controls, quite an appreciable amount of work has been able to be carried out. Needless to say, very much more work becomes necessary, and in the not too distant future existing properties will require considerable expenditure if they are to be kept up to even a reasonable standard of fitness.

Verminous Houses.

As was the case last year, this matter has received a considerable amount of attention.

The following properties were dealt with during the year:—

Type of House.	Infested.	Treated.
Council Houses 	3	3
Other Houses 	36	36

Houses found to be verminous were treated according to the type and degree of infestation found. Where bugs were found, these were treated by spraying with a liquid insecticide containing either DDT or Gammexane, cockroach infestations were treated either with powder (Gammexane Dust) and/or spraying according to the degree of infestation, whilst two complaints of heavy house fly infestation were treated by spraying.

In common with many other Districts, the long, dry, spell of hot weather during the summer, seemed to encourage the development of crickets. It was found that there was a very considerable infestation of these insects on the Council's Refuse Tip. The possibility of this trouble having its origin in the Monckton Bye-Product Plant cannot entirely be overlooked, although there is no definite evidence to prove that this was a source of trouble. Much time was spent treating the Tip both on the open faces and under the plates on the surface, and

in every instance, the kill left nothing to be desired. It must be pointed out, however, that the type of domestic refuse coming to the Tip is such as will encourage the breeding of these pests. The continued placing in dustbins of garden refuse and similar putrescible materials increases the heat of the Tip and also provides an abundant supply of food on which the insects live, and the grosser materials in the refuse provides excellent cover amongst which the insects live and breed.

The system whereby the Council's Housing Manager reports houses suspected to be verminous continued during the year under review. Such houses were inspected and treated, and instructions left with the tenants for the thorough cleansing of the houses. Houses coming in this category and inspected during 1946, were kept under observation during 1947. It is pleasing to be able to report that there was definite improvement in the general condition of these houses. Co-operation of the tenants of all such houses has been forthcoming which has resulted in the quicker clearance of infestations found. In no instance was there a very serious infestation.

So far as private property is concerned, more applications were received during the year from property owners for advice in the cleansing of suspected and definitely verminous properties. The results achieved have been most encouraging and it is gratifying to find that property owners are anxious to avail themselves of assistance and advice.

It would appear that, generally speaking, tenants are seeking the advice of the Department more than has been the case and, in several instances, requests were received for houses to be inspected because of the suspected presence of various types of vermin.

Small supplies of powder were supplied free of cost to tenants complaining either of cockroaches or crickets, and instructions given in its use. This procedure appears to have been greatly appreciated and would appear to have resulted in the gradual reduction of infestations. Where infestations did not respond to such treatment, however, properties were inspected and in several instances it became necessary for old, damp flagged floors to be taken up, cleansed and renewed. In such instances, cleansing was carried out as the flagged floors were taken up.

It would appear, however, that there is still scope for a considerable amount of work to be done throughout the District before the present widespread infestation can be said to be fully under control. Naturally, until the full co-operation of all tenants of infested property is able to be obtained, re-infestation of adjoining properties will continue.

It is to be hoped, so far as verminous Council Houses are concerned, that where such houses have been treated and cleansed that the tenants will now maintain their houses in a cleanly condition and so obtain the maximum benefit from the opportunities afforded them.

Transfer of Tenants to New Council Houses.

As new Council Houses became available for tenanting, instructions were received that the houses of all selected tenants, together with their effects, were to be inspected for the presence of vermin prior to their removing to new houses.

At the end of the year, 86 houses had been inspected under these instructions and it is very pleasing to be able to report that only in two instances was any serious infestation found. In these cases, the furniture and effects of the tenants were treated by the Council's Contractors with liquid HCN in specially constructed vans prior to being taken to the new houses. In five instances evidence of old infestations or suspected possible minor infestations were found. In these cases, furniture was treated by the Sanitary Department Staff prior to the tenant removing to a new house. It would appear that these methods have proved effective.

Of necessity, strict supervision will have to be maintained over all tenants found to be either verminous or suspected of being verminous, particularly where they have removed to permanent prefabricated houses, as, should verminous infestations become established in such houses, works of cleansing will, in all probability, mean that the whole of the wall linings will have to be removed.

One can only hope, therefore, that, having been given the tenancy of a house providing every modern convenience, the tenants will take pride in their new homes and keep them in a cleanly and good condition.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

(a) Water Supply.

The following report of water supplies in the District is submitted by Mr. A. H. CLARK, Waterworks Manager.

SUPPLY.

The Township receives its water in bulk from the Corporation of Barnsley *via* the Council's Service Reservoir at Carlton. The supply through the main meter has not been adequate at all times, but the Barnsley Waterworks Engineer continues to allow an alternative supply line to be used during night-time to keep up a sufficient head in the reservoir.

NEW ROUTE OF SUPPLY.

The agreement referred to in the last year's Report has not yet been put into effect due to the necessary materials not being available.

DISTRIBUTION.

All service pipes have been disconnected from the old 3" main in Church Street, and the main is now obsolete.

No complaints which could be attributed to inadequate distribution have been received during the year.

EXTENSIONS.

Extensions to mains, to provide a supply to new houses, were carried out in Vicarage Lane and Lee Lane.

WATER SHORTAGE.

The water shortage due to the long dry period experienced during the Summer became very acute in November when supplies had to be restricted. The District was divided and the supply cut off on alternate days.

CONSUMPTION.

The amount of water recorded during the year showed a decrease of 0·40 gallon per head of population per day, compared with the previous year.

The Table below gives the consumption in gallons over the past seven years :—

Year.		Total Annual Consumption.		Average Daily Consumption per head of population.
1941	...	42,680,000 galls.	...	15·07 galls.
1942	...	42,018,000 „	...	15·17 „
1943	...	39,171,000 „	...	14·43 „
1944	...	41,488,000 „	...	14·88 „
1945	...	47,154,000 „	...	17·01 „
1946	...	46,113,000 „	...	16·77 „
1947	...	46,241,000 „	...	16·37 „

WATER SAMPLES.

Following a complaint of unusual taste, samples of water were obtained from the tap of the premises from which the complaint was received and copies of the reports of the examinations of the samples are shown below.

Check samples were also obtained from the Council's Service Reservoir at Smithies, one set being taken from the bulk supply in the reservoir and one set from the main feeding the reservoir.

The results of these examinations are given below :—

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

No. 1 Service Reservoir—Bulk Supply.

Presumptive B. Coli ... 1 in 100 ml. water.

The examination shows that this water is satisfactory according to the standard recommended by the Ministry of Health.

EIJEMAN TEST.

No faecal B. Coli in 100 ml. water.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION. p.H. value ... 6·9

No free chlorine in 1,000,000 parts water.

No. 2 Service Reservoir—Water collected from inlet from main supplying reservoir.

Presumptive B. Coli ... None in 100 ml. water.

The examination shows that this water is satisfactory according to the standard recommended by the Ministry of Health.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION. p.H. value ... 7.0

No free chlorine in 1,000,000 parts water.

The Analyst's Reports on the chemical examinations were as shown below:—

No. 1. Bulk supply in Service Reservoir.

No. 2. Main supplying Service Reservoir.

No. 3. Ship Hotel, Royston.

				Parts per 100,000			
				1.	2.	3.	
Appearance	...	...	Clear	...	Clear	...	Clear
Total Solids	...	...	11.0	...	11.0	...	11.0
Chlorine	...	...	1.3	...	1.2	...	1.2
Nitrite	...	...	Nil	...	Nil	...	Nil
Nitrate	...	...	Trace	...	Trace	...	Trace
Free Ammonia	...	...	.001	...	.001	...	.002
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	.002	...	.005	...	.005
Poisonous Metals	...	...	Nil	...	Nil	...	Nil
Total Hardness	...	...	6.0	...	6.0	...	6.0
pH.	...	...	7.0	...	7.0	...	7.2

These waters are of good organic quality. With reference to No. 3, no unpleasant taste was noticed and bacillus coli was absent from 10 mls.

(b) Closet Accommodation.

Particulars of the various types of sanitary conveniences in the District at the end of 1947 are as follows:—

Type	No.
Water Closets ...	1,996
Privies ...	94

During the year one additional water closet was provided for existing property, and 110 were provided for new houses occupied during the year.

Two privies were converted to the water carriage system during the year.

The question of the conversion of the privies remaining in the District has also been given consideration. In most instances, although sewers are available, it is very doubtful whether sufficient fall can be obtained to allow of conversion, but, when circumstances allow and labour and materials are easier, the position will be fully investigated.

Furthermore, the continued need for all available building labour to be used in the provision of new houses must, for the time being at any rate, take precedence, and, for these reasons, it is necessary to hold the question of privy conversions in abeyance.

(c) **Public Cleansing Service.**

The following report on the Public Cleansing Service is for the financial year ended 31st March, 1948.

The following table shows the various types of refuse receptacles in use in the District at the end of the year :—

Dustbins	..	...	1,983
Dry Ashpits	...	...	Nil
Privy Middens	...	...	54
Chemical Closets	...	...	1

The Karrier Bantam Refuse Collecting Vehicle, put into service in 1946, apart from slight mechanical trouble, was found to be equal to the work required of it.

Because of its width, however, it was not possible to use this vehicle for the cleansing of all privies in the District. Hired transport (horse and cart) was, therefore, engaged for this work.

The following table shows the number of refuse receptacles emptied and loads removed during the year, together with their estimated weight. The estimated weight is based on test weighings of representative loads from all parts of the District.

During the year, application was received from the County Librarian for the chemical closet installed in premises taken over for use as a Branch Library to be cleansed.

Receptacles				No. Emptied	No. of Loads	Estimated Weight		
Dustbins	...	...	...	95,660	1,523	4,082	2	0
Privy Middens	...	...	...	464	137	321	14	0
Trade Refuse	...	...	...		128	64	0	0
Chemical Closets	...	...	...	28				
Totals	...	...	...	96,152	1,788	4,467	16	0

It is pleasing to be able to report that despite labour difficulties, temporary labour constantly having to be employed on the Public Cleansing Service, that except for the emptying of privies, a regular weekly collection of house and trade refuse was maintained throughout the year. The work of Public Cleansing was held up during the early part of the year because of heavy snowfalls, but normal collections were restored as soon as road conditions allowed.

The completion of new houses increased the work of the Public Cleansing Staff considerably, especially having in mind that collection of dustbins from new properties invariably involves long "carries." The amount of work devolving on the Public Cleansing Staff will automatically and progressively increase as more new houses are completed and occupied, and it becomes ever more important that the class of labour employed on this most essential service will have to be recruited from young, virile and able-bodied men.

Costing.

House & Trade Refuse	Collection			Disposal			Totals		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Wages	1,332	9	10	285	5	2	1,617	15	0
Petrol and Oil ..	66	15	1	...			66	15	1
Spares, Repairs, Tools, etc. ...	48	15	8	18	1	11	66	17	7
Hired Transport ...	12	3	0	...			12	3	0
TOTALS — EXCLUDING General Administra- tive Charges and Depreciation ...	1,460	3	7	303	7	1	1,763	10	8
Cost per Ton ...		6	7		1	4		7	11
General Administra- tive Charges and Depreciation ...	230	2	1	19	17	8	249	19	9
Total Cost INCLUDING General Administrative Charges and Depreciation ...	1,690	5	8	323	4	9	2,013	10	5
Cost per Ton ...		7	7		1	5		9	0

Estimated Population

(Mid-summer, 1946—Registrar-General's figure ...	7,799
No. of Houses or Premises in the District	2,443
Rateable Value of District	£27,326
Product of 1d. Rate	£100
Total Rates in the £	22/-

				T.	C.	Q.
Total Tonnage Collected	...	...	...	4,467	16	0
Output of Refuse per 1,000 pop. per annum	...			572	17	1
Output of Refuse per 1,000 pop. per day	...			1	11	2
Average length of Haul	...	...	..			1 mile

Based on estimated weight, the weight of house refuse collected per 1,000 population per day was equal to almost 31 cwt. This figure is higher than the figure for the year 1946-47 and I am of the opinion that it is high when compared with the figures for the whole country. The reason for the increase is partly due to more dustbins requiring emptying following the occupation of new houses, but more largely to the fact that the regular weekly cleansing of the District has been maintained. It must be borne in mind, of course, that Districts like this where most of the available male labour is employed at collieries and receives "home coal," the proportion of shale, etc., forming part of domestic refuse is very much higher than in residential areas. Furthermore, it would appear that households in receipt of home coal have no need to exercise the thrift which has to be exercised in households where supplies of solid fuel are limited. The quantity of combustible material remaining in house refuse is very high and the question of the separation of this material from household refuse for sale is a question which might, at some time, be considered to advantage.

One application was received during the year from one resident to screen cinders, etc., for use in greenhouse heating.

In calculating the cost per ton, no allowance is made for income from the sale of salvaged materials. Income from this source during the year amounted to £264 19s. 0d. of which details are given in that portion of the Report dealing with Salvage. This income reduces the cost per ton (collection and disposal) by 1s. 2d. per ton to 7s. 10d. per ton.

Salvage.

The collection of various classes of Salvage during the year has remained an integral part of the Public Cleansing Service.

Income from the sale of salvaged materials during the year again showed a slight increase over the income for the Financial Year 1946-47 (£264 19s. 0d. during the year 1947-48 as against £233 10s. 8d. during the year 1946-47). This slight increase is encouraging, but I still feel that much more could be done provided the full co-operation of all householders could be obtained. This is particularly true so far as newsprint and household rags are concerned. Household rags, in particular, could show a considerable increase. Almost daily, collectors of rags can be seen in the District or leaving the District with ponies and carts, the carts being fully loaded with domestic rags. Whilst these rags do eventually find their way back into industry, and cannot, therefore, be classed as lost, the same materials, if made available for

collection by the Council's Public Cleansing Staff, would result in a very much increased income from Salvage and would automatically offset the Public Cleansing Estimate. It remains to be seen, however, whether additional publicity on this matter will eventually result in more of these materials being made available for collection by the Council.

The continued urgent need for salvage output to be maintained at the highest possible level in the interest of National Economy and to assist in post-war reconstruction cannot be stressed too greatly, and it would appear that Salvage which became necessary in order to prosecute the recent war must remain as an essential part of Public Cleansing for some considerable time to come.

The weights of the various classes of Salvage collected during the year shown in the following Table are those of materials collected by the Public Cleansing Service only, and do not include any income from the sale of materials by the Highways and Housing Departments. Income from the sale of organic fertiliser (dried sewage sludge) is not included either.

So far as Kitchen Waste is concerned, the long standing arrangements between pig and poultry keepers and householders whereby this class of material is collected regularly and used for the feeding of pigs and poultry, continued throughout the year, but no statistics of the amounts so collected have been able to be obtained. Judging by the standard of pigs slaughtered, however, a great deal of work in this respect must have been carried out by pig keepers, and every credit is due to these people for the work they are doing.

During the year, arrangements were able to be made for the disposal of salvaged bottles and jars, and a ready market was available for old rugs, carpets, etc. Income from these two items showed a substantial increase on previous years but the income from waste paper fell. The amount of waste paper made available for collection from dwellinghouses was only small and it must be admitted that the majority of this class of Salvage came from shops. Here again, it is hoped that renewed publicity will re-awaken public interest with consequent increased output.

Salvage Statistics.

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1948.

	T.	C.	Q.	LBS.		£	s.	d.
Paper	23	17	1	0	...	152	11	6
Increased Output Bonus ...					...	3	10	0
Ferrous Metals	9	6	0	0	...	25	2	6
Non-Ferrous Metals	0	2	2	4	...	2	7	9
Rags, Rugs, etc.	7	13	2	13	...	38	11	1
Bones	0	8	0	0	...	2	6	1
Bottles, Jars and Cullet ...	5	19	0	0	...	40	10	1
	47	6	1	17		£264	19	0

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

(1) Number and nature of Inspections.

The following Table shows particulars of Inspections made during the year :—

Nature of Inspection					No. of Visits Paid
HOUSING.					
Housing and Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	1556
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	382
Miscellaneous Housing	...	...	...	...	230
Works in progress	...	...	...	...	265
MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS.					
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	97
Shops and Stalls	...	...	...	...	10
Other Premises	...	...	...	...	61
Butchers	...	...	...	...	15
Grocers	...	...	...	...	22
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	16
Dairies	...	...	...	...	7
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	18
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	4
Street Vendors and Hawkers' Carts	...	...	...	...	2
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	20
Miscellaneous Food Visits	...	...	...	...	44
INFECTIOUS DISEASE.					
Inquiries and Disinfection	...	...	...	...	110
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	89
GENERAL SANITATION.					
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	26
Drainage	...	...	...	...	123
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	26
Petroleum	...	...	...	...	2
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	9
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	21
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	10
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	18
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	...	...	...	...	4
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	161
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	152
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	1,307
Schools	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	...	392
Interviews	...	...	...	...	392
Salvage	...	...	...	...	131
Disposal of Billeting Equipment	...	...	...	...	132
Total Number of Inspections					5,856

(2) *Complaints Received.*

During the year 251 complaints were received, details of which are as shown below :—

Nature of Complaint						No. Received
Choked Drains	...	...	...	...	...	52
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	13
Dilapidations	...	...	...	...	...	36
Accumulation of Refuse	...	...	...	...	...	13
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	34
Defective W.C. Service Pipes	...	...	...	...	...	15
Defective W.C. Flushing Cistern	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective W.C. Apartment	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dampness	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective or Smoky Chimney	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective Sink	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective Roof	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective Soil Pipe	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nuisances—Water	...	...	...	...	...	7
Poultry	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective Tap	...	...	...	...	...	3
Verminous Premises—Cockroaches	...	...	...	...	...	18
Bugs	...	...	...	...	...	6
Crickets	...	...	...	...	...	20
Flies	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective Fireback	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective Floor	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective Oven	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective Range	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective Wash Copper	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective Door	...	...	...	...	...	1

 251
Factories and Workshops.

During the year, two new Factories were added to the list, one being the additional Shirt Factory of Messrs. A. Valentine Stubbs, Ltd., in New Street, and the other the small printing works of Mr. D. Crawshaw, Midland Road.

21 inspections were carried out during the year at the various premises registered.

One complaint of uncleanness was received from H.M. Inspector of Factories during the year, but, on inspection, it was found that the whole of the premises had already been limewashed. No other complaints were received regarding the condition or insufficiency of sanitary conveniences or general cleanliness.

Three cases of uncleanness were found during the year, and, in each instance, the conditions found were remedied as a result of informal action.

Notification of Outworkers as required by Sections 110 and 111 of the Factories Act, 1937, were received during the year in two instances.

The following Tables are extracts from the form of return submitted to the Ministry of Labour and National Service :—

Part I. of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors) :—

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Number Written Notices.	Number Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	10	21	0	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	0	0	0	0
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is en- forced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	10	21	0	0

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found :—

Particulars.	Number of Cases in which Defects were found.						
	Found.	Remedied.	To H.M. Inspector.	Referred By H.M. Inspector.	Prosecutions Instituted.		
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1) ...	3	3	0	1	0		
Overcrowding (S. 2) ...	0	0	0	0	0		
Unreasonable Temp- ature (S. 3) ...	0	0	0	0	0		
Inadequate Ventila- tion (S. 4) ...	0	0	0	0	0		
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S. 6) ...	0	0	0	0	0		
Sanitary Conveni- ences (S. 7) :—							
(a) Insufficient ...	0	0	0	0	0		
(b) Unsuitable or Defective ...	0	0	0	0	0		
(c) Not Separate for Sexes ...	0	0	0	0	0		
Other offences against the Act ...	0	0	0	0	0		
Total ...	3	3	0	1	0		

Smoke Abatement.

No nuisance from Smoke was noted within the District during the year.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

No additional premises were registered under the provisions of Section 14 (2) of the above-mentioned Act during the year.

At the end of the year, 16 premises were registered.

The various registered premises have been inspected from time to time during the year and have been found to be in a satisfactory condition.

During the year, one Fried Fish Shop was provided with more adequate cleaning facilities and better storage accommodation for potatoes.

Housing.

During the year 1947, 516 houses were inspected for housing defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts, 1,516 visits being made for the purpose.

A fair amount of repair work was able to be carried out, but the continued shortage of building labour and materials made extensive housing repairs impossible. A closer check on repair work carried out otherwise than by notice was able to be kept by Contractors seeking the help and advice of the Department in order to obtain the necessary licences in order to execute works of repair.

As had been expected, when new Council houses became ready for occupation, complaints of overcrowding and bad housing conditions increased considerably. In several instances, distressing conditions were found to exist. In this connection, it must be borne in mind that the last Overcrowding Survey was taken more than twelve years ago and the constant movement of population, together with conditions created during the recent war and the cessation of building operations during the war made it almost impossible to keep any accurate records of overcrowding.

Cases of two or more families occupying one house show quite an alarming increase. Young people who married during the war have had to live with parents or in lodgings, and, as children have been born, their need for separate housing accommodation has become more urgent.

Moral overcrowding presents a still more increasing difficulty, and adequate separate sleeping accommodation for adolescents and young people now well advanced in their teens is a necessity. This is a grave social problem, particularly having in mind that the majority of older cottage property in the District provides only living room and scullery on the ground floor with only two bedrooms on the first floor. Under such circumstances, steps to be taken for the proper separation of the sexes are neither readily nor easily practicable. Shift working by male members of the family working at collieries precludes any possibility of householders erecting beds downstairs, and the position is further aggravated by the fact that all domestic washing and cooking has to be carried out in the living room.

The question of unfit houses is also one which assumes ever increasing proportions. Many houses which at the outbreak of war had reached the stage of being dealt with formally under the Housing Act with a view of being demolished, remain, and owners are naturally loathe to expend considerable amounts of money when no information can be given as to the remaining life of such houses. The condition of these houses has certainly deteriorated further, and quite a number of houses which before the war were border line cases have now become so dilapidated that minor repairs are ineffective and the works necessary to bring the properties up to an even reasonable standard of fitness, if carried out, would prove very expensive and not justifiable.

Whilst houses already erected must have eased the position a little, much remains to be done before all overcrowded conditions are relieved and it is possible to continue with the work of demolishing unfit houses.

Continuing vigorous prosecution of the Housing Programme must be maintained for some considerable time before its effects become apparent.

The continuing shortage of building labour and materials make it difficult and are a serious handicap to owners who are anxious to re-condition their property and maintain it in an even reasonable state of repair.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The food supplies of the District have again received a fair amount of attention, but it was not found possible to obtain samples of milk or ice cream for examination. I am hoping, however, that it will be possible in the reasonably near future to institute a system for the regular sampling of both.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

During the year two Supplementary Licences were granted, one for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk and the other for the sale of Pasteurised Milk.

Ice Cream.

No samples of ice cream were obtained during the year.

Premises in the District used as a distribution centre were improved very considerably by the provision of a large refrigerated room.

The other premises in the District where ice cream is actually manufactured are to be adapted to comply with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947. Plant has been on order for some considerable time, but, at the end of the year, had not been fixed.

When a "Standard" is laid down for ice cream, a much closer control of this product will be able to be maintained.

Meat Inspection.

As in previous years, meat for sale in the various butchers' shops in the District was slaughtered in the Barnsley Abattoir. Whilst the methods of distribution to the butchers' shops could not be regarded as ideal, there was certainly more care taken to prevent contamination of the meat during transit.

On three occasions, it was found necessary to return meat to the Distributors in Barnsley. Such meat, which was found to be unfit for human consumption was replaced and rations for the District did not suffer as a result of the action taken.

Quite a considerable amount of slaughtering of pigs kept by householders for home consumption was carried out. As last year, arrangements were made with the Local Food Executive Officer for circular letters to be sent out with licences to slaughter asking the owners of pigs to notify the date and time of slaughter in order that all carcasses dressed might be inspected. In most instances, this information was supplied and the carcasses of pigs slaughtered were inspected. A total of 139 pigs were inspected during the year.

The standard of the pigs killed maintained the high standard attained during last year, and with feeding stuffs in short supply, this reflects very great credit upon the owners who must have gone to very considerable trouble to collect household scraps to supplement rations of meal allowed by the Ministry of Food to Pig Keepers. It must be remembered, also, that concentrated kitchen waste was also obtained for pig feeding. Unfortunately, no records are available giving even approximate weights of kitchen waste collected by pig keepers from householders, but, judging by the condition of the carcasses inspected, the amount collected must have been considerable.

The amount of disease found, whilst rather more than in 1946, give no cause for undue alarm, and has most certainly resulted in pig keepers being more anxious to have their pigs inspected after slaughter rather than risk eating diseased meat.

The following table shows the diseased conditions found, and it is very gratifying to be able to report that in each instance, the owner in question voluntarily surrendered the unfit portion or organ for destruction.

<i>Tuberculosis</i> —	Pigs' Heads	...	...	...	8
	Pigs' Plucks	...	...	...	3
	Pigs' Mesenteries	...	...	...	4
<i>Cirrhosis</i> —	Pig's Liver	...	...	...	1
<i>Hepatitis</i> —	Pig's Liver	...	...	...	1
<i>Pericarditis</i> —	Pig's Heart	...	...	...	1

Other Foods.

Details of other foodstuffs found to be unsound and which were voluntarily surrendered are given below :—

<i>Tinned Foodstuffs</i>	No. of Tins
Minced Beef Loaf with Cereals	1
Milk	26
Peas	17
Steak	7
Meat and Vegetables	2
Tomatoes	1
Beans	2
Macaroni and Cheese	1
Beetroot	9

Dressed Crab	...	...	...	...	1
Potted Meat	...	...	...	...	2
Apricots	...	...	...	...	4
Irish Stew	...	...	...	...	1
Carrots	...	...	...	...	24
Salmon	...	...	...	...	4
Soup	...	...	...	...	2
Ham Loaf	...	...	...	...	2

104

Other Foodstuffs

Bacon	16½ lbs.
Kippers	178 lbs.
Sausages	10 lbs.

204½ lbs.

Eggs	60
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Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

The systematic survey of the District for the presence of rats and mice continued during 1947.

Complaints were received from the Contractors engaged on the erection of houses on the Pinfold Lane Housing Scheme from time to time. Treatments were carried out with particularly good results in and about the workmen's cabins adjoining the traditional houses.

Two maintenance treatments of the sewers were carried out and it was found that quite a considerable degree of infestation had occurred in the sewers from the Pinfold Lane Housing Scheme. This was, in all probability, due to the fact that openings to the drains were untrapped and not protected by gully grates until houses became ready for occupation.

The results of the Sewer Maintenance Treatments showed a very considerable reduction in the degree of infestation in the sewers.

Follow-up treatments were carried out on the Refuse Tip, in the Salvage Shed and at the Sewage Disposal Works. Results were satisfactory and at the end of the year, little or no evidence of infestation was apparent at any of these places.

The estimated kill, using the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Formula, at the end of 1947, was approximately 2,000 rats since the intensive campaign was begun in July, 1946.

Private properties were dealt with by "Block Control" methods under the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Special Scheme. In some instances, infestations were not brought to the notice of the Department until they had become very well established which automatically resulted in prolonged treatments to clear the infestations.

Public Conveniences.

The continued need for the provision of additional, modern, and up-to-date conveniences for both sexes was not overlooked during the year, but the continual need for making all possible building labour available for work on Housing Schemes could not be overlooked.

The District was surveyed for suitable sites for the erection of such conveniences and suggested sites agreed with the Planning Officer.

The existing conveniences need attention, and one is fast approaching the time when it should be dismantled.

Except in the Welfare Park, there are no facilities for females in the District, and the need for female accommodation becomes more urgent.

It cannot be stressed too much, however, that the public conveniences erected on Cross Lane early in the war have been very badly misused. The other two conveniences are also misused and it is a matter of grave concern that residents of the Township do not exercise more care in the use of what are, if they would only appreciate it, their own property.

The continued abuse of facilities already provided gives little or no encouragement to provide new, modern and up-to-date conveniences which, with building costs at their present high level, could only be provided at very considerable cost.

It is the duty of all ratepayers to ensure that such facilities provided out of public monies, should be properly used.

Mortuary.

No works were found to be necessary in the Mortuary during the year.

Conclusion.

In addition to the activities set out in the foregoing Report, the duty of disposing of surplus Government Owned Equipment received by the Council for use in connection with the billeting of Evacuees, and the supervision of the erection of the Temporary Office Building was carried out by the Health Department.

I would again like to express my appreciation to the Members of the W.V.S. for the ready assistance they afforded me in disposing of surplus Government Owned Equipment.

I would like to take this opportunity of expressing to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee my appreciation for their unfailing support and encouragement.

During the year, the post of Part-Time Medical Officer of Health came to an end with the appointment of a Full-Time Divisional Medical Officer as from October, 1947.

I would like to place on record my appreciation of the help and encouragement I received from Dr. Pare as Medical Officer of Health from the time of my appointment to the date of his ceasing to be Medical Officer in September, 1947.

With Dr. Reeves, the Divisional Medical Officer, it would appear that the excellent co-operation which has existed in the past will continue in the future.

I am also glad of the opportunity of expressing my appreciation and thanks to all the Members of the Council and to the other Officials for the support and help which I have received in the discharge of my duties.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen, Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE E. MILLAR,

Sanitary Inspector and

Cleansing Superintendent.

August, 1948.

